

PATENT



43379

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
Kazushi TORII et al. :  
Serial No.: *not yet received* :  
Filed: *herewith* :  
For: WATER-ABSORBING AGENT AND :  
PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREFOR, AND :  
WATER-ABSORBENT STRUCTURE :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

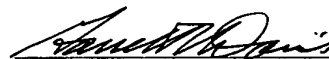
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants bring the disclosures attached and listed on completed Form PTO-1449 to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application.

Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-31362/1993 and Japanese Patent No. 3017584/1999 and JP-A-96159/1993 correspond to U.S. Patent No. 5,382,610. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-180233/1983 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,666,983. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-16903/1986 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,734,478. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-117393/1977 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,051,086. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-136588/1976 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,043,952. Japanese Patent Publications JP-A-211305/1986 and JP-A-264006/1986 correspond to U.S. Patent No. 4,755,560. German Patent Publication DE 40 20 780 C1 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,409,771. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-197818/2000 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,297,319. WO

97/03114 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,981,070. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-509591/1997 corresponds to WO 95/22356. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-342963/2000 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,797,893. WO 96/17884 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,985,944. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-227435/1990 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,002,986. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-53550/1996 corresponds to WO 96/05234. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-290000/1997 corresponds to WO 97/39780. Japanese Patent No. 2624089/1997 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,281,340. Japanese Patent Publication JP-A-302876/2000 corresponds to EP 1 029 886 A2.

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Reg. No. 32,023

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Dated: January 27, 2002

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 JC828 U.S. PTO  
 10/053659  
 01/24/02

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3 8 8 8 2 5 7	6/1975	COOK et al.	128	296	
		5 3 8 2 6 1 0	1/1995	HARADA et al.	524	35	
		4 6 2 5 0 0 1	11/1986	TSUBAKIMOTO et al.	526	88	
		4 6 5 4 0 3 9	3/1987	BRANDT et al.	604	368	
		5 2 5 0 6 4 0	10/1993	IRIE et al.	526	88	
		5 2 7 5 7 7 3	1/1994	IRIE et al.	264	141	
		4 0 7 6 6 6 3	2/1978	MASUDA et al.	260	17.4 GC	
		4 3 8 9 5 1 3	6/1983	MIYAZAKI	525	186	
		4 1 2 4 7 4 8	11/1978	FUJIMOTO et al.	526	8	
		3 9 5 9 5 6 9	5/1976	BURKHOLDER, JR.	428	475	
		3 9 3 5 0 9 9	1/1976	WEAVER et al.	210	43	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		5 3 1 3 6 2	2/1993	Japan				X
		3 0 1 7 5 8 4	12/1999	Japan				X
		5 6 9 1 5 9	4/1993	Japan				X
		0 4 5 6 1 3 6	11/1991	EPO				
		5 8 1 8 0 2 3 3	10/1983	Japan				X

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


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		4	6	6	6	9	8	3	5/1987	TSUBAKIMOTO et al.	525	119	
		4	7	3	4	4	7	8	3/1988	TSUBAKIMOTO et al.	527	300	
		4	0	5	1	0	8	6	9/1977	REID	260	17.4 GC	
		4	0	4	3	9	5	2	8/1977	GANSLAW et al.	260	17.4	
		4	7	5	5	5	6	0	7/1988	ITO et al.	525	100	
		5	4	0	9	7	7	1	4/1995	DAHMEN et al.	428	327	
		6	2	9	7	3	1	9	10/2001	NAGASUNA et al.	525	96	
		5	1	6	4	4	5	9	11/1992	KIMURA et al.	525	384	
		5	9	8	1	0	7	0	11/1999	ISHIZAKI et al.	428	407	
		5	7	9	7	8	9	3	8/1998	WADA et al.	604	372	
		5	9	8	5	9	4	4	11/1999	ISHIZAKI et al.	521	64	

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
													YES	NO	
		6	1	1	6	9	0	3	1/1986	Japan					X
	5	9	1	8	9	1	0	3	10/1984	Japan			X	(Abstract)	
	5	2	1	1	7	3	9	3	10/1977	Japan				X	
	5	1	1	3	6	5	8	8	11/1976	Japan				X	
	6	1	2	5	7	2	3	5	11/1986	Japan			X	(Abstract)	

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	5	0	0	2	9	8	6	3/1991	FUJIURA et al.	524	47		
	5	2	8	1	3	4	0	1/1994	SATO et al.	210	734		

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	6	1	2	6	4	0	0	11/1986	Japan					X
	4	0	2	0	7	8	0	8/1991	Germany					X

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		9 9 4 3 7 2 0	9/1999	PCT				X			
		0 0 3 1 1 5 3	6/2000	PCT				X			
	2000	1 9 7 8 1 8	7/2000	Japan				X			
		0 8 2 7 7 5 3	3/1998	EPO							

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					YES	NO
0 3 4 9 2 4 0	1/1990	EPO				
0 7 6 1 2 4 1	3/1997	EPO				
2000 9 5 9 5 5	4/2000	Japan			X (Abstract)	
3 1 0 7 9 0 9	9/2000	Japan			X (Abstract)	
6 3 7 0	1/1994	Japan				X

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		9	7	0	3	1	1	4	1/1997	WO					X
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	2000	3	4	2	9	6	3		12/2000	Japan					X
		9	3	1	2	3			1/1997	Japan					X
		9	5	2	2	3	5	6	8/1995	PCT					

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